



STATE OF UTAH
NATURAL RESOURCES
Water Rights

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* M E M O R A N D U M *

TO: The San Pitch River Water Users Committee
FROM: Kent L. Jones, P. E., Directing Distribution Engineer
SUBJECT: Combination of the Upper and Lower San Pitch Rivers
DATE: January 9, 1986

The following is a proposed plan of action for the combining of the present two distribution systems on the San Pitch River into one distribution system. The new distribution system would be headed by a committee comprised of a Committee Chairman, Vice Chairman and five committee members. We would propose that this committee be made up of representatives as follows:

Ephraim Area - 1 representative
Manti-Sterling Area - 1 representative
Gunnison Area - 1 representative
Fairview Area - 1 representative
Moroni Area - 1 representative

This would only be five representatives and the remaining two could come from anywhere on the system. These remaining two would be elected at the annual distribution meeting as nominated and voted upon by the water users present. The only criteria for being a committee member would be that the person represent an irrigation company which is on the assessment rolls and which the commissioner has direct responsibility for distribution and regulation of the water. The responsibilities of the committee would be to represent their areas in any and all matters concerning the administration of the waters of the San Pitch River and its tributaries.

Each water user area shall establish an equitable basis to elect its representative at a meeting called for that purpose in December of each year, giving such notice as this area shall determine to be proper. This would be done with the exception of the two general system representatives, who would be elected at the annual meeting.

The said committee shall elect from their membership a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and a Secretary-Treasurer, and may appoint other officers, agents, and committees necessary to carry out the functions of the governing body.

At least four members of the committee must be present at any meeting to constitute a QUORUM, and a majority of the committee members present when a quorum exists shall transact the business of the association.

It shall be the duty of the committee of this association to promote general harmony for the entire river system, and to care for the needs of the individual and corporate water users, insofar as they are the representatives of the said users and function as administrators and mediators of their water affairs.

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The said committee shall be empowered to make such by-laws and rules and regulations necessary for the government and effective administration of the policies of this organization; to assess as may be necessary to prosecute the work of the association; to transact the business of the association; to recommend a RIVER COMMISSIONER and a BUDGET for submission to the STATE ENGINEER.

The ANNUAL MEETING of the committee shall be held in January each year, at which time an appraisal of the past year's water supply and problems will be discussed and plans made for presentation to the State Engineer. A schedule of meetings for the year shall be made at the January meeting, although the committee and members may meet as often as necessary to better direct the affairs of the San Pitch River distribution System. Special meetings may be called at any time upon ten days notice in writing to all representatives informing them of the time and place of the proposed meeting. These special meetings may be called at any time upon ten days notice by the Chairman, or by any three representatives. In addition to these meetings of the Directors, meetings may be held with the respective groups to discuss their water problems at any time.

Following the Annual Meeting of the committee, and as early as possible thereafter, the committee will meet with the State Engineer to agree upon a Budget and a River Commissioner, and to make plans for water distribution for the following year.

In case of a vacancy caused by the death of a member of the committee, or by his resignation or removal from his district, the remaining members of the committee shall notify the State Engineer in writing of the said vacancy and shall act as an administrative body to assist the water users of the area in which the vacancy exists in the election of a new representative to act with full and equal powers as a member of the committee of the San Pitch River Distribution System.

These Articles of Association may be amended at any Annual Meeting with a Quorum of the committee present; and the committee shall have the power to select and to change from time to time, the headquarters and the principle place of business of this association, the San Pitch River Distribution System.

The proposed estimated budget would be as follows for the new system:

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An estimate of the budget required to consolidate the systems is as follows:

Commissioner's Salary	\$8100.00
Deputy Expenses	500.00
Commissioner & Deputy Social Security Tax (0.0715)	614.90
Commissioner & Deputy State Retirement (0.12)	1032.00
Travel	5400.00
Annual Report	200.00
Miscellaneous Expense	<u>253.10</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$16100.00</u>

This should allow the commissioner adequate time and expense to perform the commissioner's responsibilities.

For comparison, the budgets last year for each system are included on the attachments. Their totals were \$9,000.00 for the Lower San Pitch System and \$4,800.00 for the San Pitch System. Those amounts total to \$13,800.00, which is 17% less than the combined system budget, but the State Engineer is of the opinion that more time will have to be spent by the river commissioners on both the San Pitch and Lower San Pitch systems to provide the needed coordination between the two systems and supply the required regulation and records needed to meet the demands that future development and growth will place on the distribution and use of the water in the San Pitch River. This will probably involve an increase of 10 to 20% on the work load of the two commissioners and will make the budgets, whether separate or single, approximately equal.

The State Engineer is of the opinion that combining the two systems into one will better allow the San Pitch water users to more effectively distribute the water and protect the water rights in the San Pitch River.

The budget would be assessed to the water users on a pro-rata share as equitably determined by the water users under the direction of the State Engineer.